## Amendments to the Claims

- 1. 21. (cancelled)
- 22. (currently amended): A method of providing RLP data checking comprising: receiving a plurality of RLP data frames, wherein the plurality of RLP data frames can be transmitted across a plurality of channels;

identifying from the RLP data frames a suspected bad frame by retrieving a data frame sequence identifier from a received valid data frame and comparing the data frame sequence identifier with a data frame sequence parameter;

wherein the data frame sequence parameter is a function, at least in part, of a number of channels that the plurality of RLP data frames can be transmitted across

reclassifying the suspected bad frame to form a reclassified frame, wherein the reclassified frame is an erasure; and

passing the reclassified frame to a RLP data detector. The method of claim 21 whereby the data frame sequence parameter is a function, at least in part, of a number of channels that the plurality of RLP data frames can be transmitted across.

23. (currently amended): A method of providing RLP data checking comprising: receiving a plurality of RLP data frames, wherein the plurality of RLP data frames can be transmitted across a plurality of channels;

identifying from the RLP data frames a suspected bad frame by retrieving a data frame sequence identifier from a received valid data frame and comparing the data frame sequence identifier with a data frame sequence parameter;

wherein the data frame sequence parameter is a function, at least in part, of a number of channels determined to be in active use;

reclassifying the suspected bad frame to form a reclassified frame, wherein the reclassified frame is an erasure; and

passing the reclassified frame to a RLP data detector. The method of claim 21 whereby the data frame sequence parameter is a function, at least in part, of a number of channels determined to be in active use.

24. (previously presented): The method of claim 23 whereby a channel is determined to be in active use by:

maintaining a consecutive erasure count for each of the channels; and comparing at least one of the consecutive erasure counts with at least one threshold.

- 25. (currently amended): The method of claim <u>22</u> <del>21</del> whereby at least one of the channels is a Discontinuous Transmission (DTX) channel.
- 26. (currently amended): The method of claim <u>22.9</u> wherein occurrence of the step of reclassifying the suspected bad frame is dependent on whether a channel is determined to be currently in active use.
- 27. (currently amended): The method of claim <u>22.9</u> wherein occurrence of the step of reclassifying the suspected bad frame is dependent on an elapsed time from receiving a previous data frame sequence identifier.